

Healesville Environment Watch Inc. Newsletter May 2023

Issue 263

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HEALESVILLE * CHUMCREEK * YARRA GLEN * BADGER CREEK * STEELS CREEK * TARRAWARRA * TOOLANGI

We wish to acknowledge The Wurundjeri People, the traditional custodians of our region, and all Aboriginal Elders, past and present.

Up Coming Events

Sun 28 May

21st Anniversary Planting, Coronation Park, Healesville. 9.30 – noon. RSVP for catering to admin@hewi.org.au. Free morning tea at 9.30, short speech at 10 am followed by planting. BYO cup for a drink and gloves.

Sun 28 May

2-4 pm, The Memo. Bob Brown documentary "The Giants". Free afternoon tea. Tickets at Memo prices. https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/ Experience/Events/The-Giants

Sat 3 June

1-3 pm, "The Giants" documentary, Arts Centre, Warburton. Usual prices. Free afternoon tea & information provided by Warburton Environment https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/
Experience/Events/The-Giants

Mon 5 June, 2-3 pm

Platypus in Healesville, Library Talk (HEWI). Learn about the community's work protecting platypus habitat, where to look for them, and how to contribute to citizen science projects. Book with the library. Free hot drink.

Thurs 1-Fri 30 June HEWI Healesville library display & competition.

Thurs 8 June, 7.30 pm HEWI committee meeting via Zoom

Tues 20 June

Healesville Primary School planting at Wirrup Yaluk, from 9.30 am. Current Working with Children Card required by all volunteers.

New HEWI Rules proposal

The committee would appreciate more feedback from members about retiring our 2006 Rules and adopting the 2012 Model Rules, which have a better layout with an index, more provisions and guidance for members and committees. We had only positive feedback so far from 15 members, and would like to hear from more members if they have any queries before we set the date for a Special Meeting in July. You can forward your comments to admin@hewi.org.au by our 8 June committee meeting.

Grants

We applied for a \$500 Victorian Landcare Support Grant, now administered by Melbourne Water for DEECA. This is open to all environmental volunteer groups, and a group health survey was completed. We also applied for a \$20 IGA voucher - a thankyou from council in National Volunteer Week.

Child Safe Standards

Several committee members have completed the Landcare Victoria or council Child Safe Standards updates this month. Thank you to those members who have supplied their WWCC cards for our records, and updated their volunteer organisations to include HEWI. For our community tree planting at Coronation Park members do not need this card, however, only those with a current WWCC can assist us on Tuesday 20 June with Healesville Primary School in Queens Park.

Healesville Green St purchase by council

Although we would have preferred VicTrack to transfer the land at Green St Healesville to the community at no cost, we are pleased that many residents completed the council survey, and our councillors voted unanimously to purchase the site. It will now be rezoned to Open Space and remain for community use in perpetuity.

Maroondah Reservoir Park **LUNA** proposal

Bronwyn and Karen attended the Yarra Ranges Tourism information session about a proposed light installation event for Maroondah RP. We have done several night walks here, the last being in December 2022, and have

consistently found Greater Gliders, Sugar Gliders, Brushtail & Ringtail Possums, and Eastern Grey Kangaroos in and around the picnic area. We also expressed concern that the many vehicles coming and going at night would be detrimental to the amenity of the neighbours. We hope they can find a site that has little or no wildlife that is already used for large events.

Eastern Bunny (Parson's Bands) Orchid
(Photo credit Wendy Probert)



Juliet Avenue Bushland Reserve, Badger Creek, continues to surprise and delight us. For the first time we have found Eriochilus cucullatus here, and three individual plants have been seen so far. It's well worth a visit every month – the Tiny Greenhood Pterostylis parviflora is also flowering now, and even harder to find. Contact Karen admin@hewi.org.au if you'd like to be shown where they are.



Avoid plastic

Bulk stores can often refill your shampoo and conditioner bottles direct from their in-store dispenser. Remember your bottles next visit to avoid needing to purchase more plastic. And we do have a bulk store in Healesville.

You can choose towels, face washers and many other materials made from bamboo. Same is true of dishwashing brushes, toothbrushes and the like.

How much can a man save by growing a beard instead of shaving? And this eliminates a great deal of throw-away stuff.

Older clothes were better made, from more lasting material, with less plastic. Do regular Op Shop tours with a carload of friends. In Healesville we have the Lion's Den (now in Old Lilydale Rd), Salvation Army near the Post Office, and the Living and Learning Centre one at the East End. And isn't it good to know that when you buy better and cheaper, you are supporting a worthwhile, local organisation? Sadly, soft toys made from synthetic material won't break down easily after your child has outgrown them, and can leach micro-plastics over many years of washing. Look for natural fibres when buying your child's furry friends.

Home Energy & Sustainability

- •https://www.yourhome.gov.au/
- •https://energytips.org.au/
- •https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/
- https://goinggreensolutions.com.au









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